

REMARKS

The present communication is in response to the Official Action mailed July 17, 2003. A petition for a two-month extension of the term for response to the Official Action, to and including December 17, 2003, is transmitted concurrently herewith.

Claims 1-10 are currently pending in the application. Of the pending claims, claims 1 and 6 are independent claims. Claims 2-5 depend from claim 1 and claims 7-10 depend from claim 6.

Claim 1 has been amended as indicated hereinabove. In particular, the preamble of claim 1 has been amended to recite "A video reproducing apparatus for reproducing a plurality of digital compressed video streams having different frame frequencies." Claim 1 has also been amended to recite "a decoder for receiving the plurality of digital compressed video streams and for decoding frame frequency information contained in the digital compressed video streams." In view of these amendments, claim 1 has also been amended to correct its form in accordance with the newly recited language. Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments to claim 1 do not constitute the addition of new matter as support for these amendments may be found, for example, at page 16, line 25 through page 17, line 5 of the written description.

In view of the amendments to claim 1, applicants have amended claims 2-5 to improve their form. In particular, claims 2-5 have been amended to include the appropriate antecedent recitals to claim 1.

Claim 6 has been now amended to recite "A video reproducing method of reproducing a plurality of digital compressed video streams having different frame frequencies." Claim 6 has also been amended to recite "receiving the plurality of digital compressed video streams; [and] decoding frame

frequency information contained in the digital compressed video streams." In view of the foregoing amendments to claim 6, applicants have also amended claim 6 to include proper antecedent recitals. Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments to claim 6 do not constitute the addition of new matter as support for these amendments may be found, for example, by reference to FIG. 2 and its accompanying description.

In view of the amendments to claim 6, claims 7-10 have been amended to include proper antecedent recitals to claim 6. As such, applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claim 7-10 do not constitute the addition of new matter.

In the Official Action of July 17, 2003, the Examiner rejected all of the claims in the application under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,583,575 to Arita et al. (hereinafter "Arita"). In view of the foregoing amendments to claims 1 and 6, applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-10 is now moot.

In particular, Arita does not teach or suggest "a decoder for receiving the plurality of digital compressed video streams and for decoding frame frequency information contained in the digital compressed video streams" as is now recited in claim 1. Further, Arita also does not teach or suggest "a converter for replacing differences among the frame frequencies with differences among the numbers of horizontal pixels for the plurality of digital compressed video streams and for converting the number of horizontal pixels so that the plurality of digital compressed video streams can be processed by a common clock frequency." As such, Arita does not teach or disclose the claim combination of claim 1.

As claims 2-5 depend from claim 1, applicants respectfully submit that these claims are not anticipated by Arita for at least the reason that they depend from claim 1.

With regard to claim 6, applicants respectfully submit that Arita does not disclose or suggest a method of reproducing a plurality of digital compressed video streams that includes "receiving the plurality of digital compressed video streams; [and] decoding frame frequency information contained in the digital compressed video streams." As such, applicants respectfully submit that Arita neither anticipates nor obviates claim 6. Further in this regard, applicants respectfully submit that Arita does not teach or suggest "replacing differences among the frame frequencies with differences among the numbers of horizontal pixels for the plurality of digital compressed video streams and converting the number of horizontal pixels so that the plurality of digital compressed video streams can be processed by a common clock frequency."

As claims 7-10 depend from claim 6, applicants respectfully submit that these claims are not anticipated or obviated by Arita for at least the reason that they depend from claim 6.

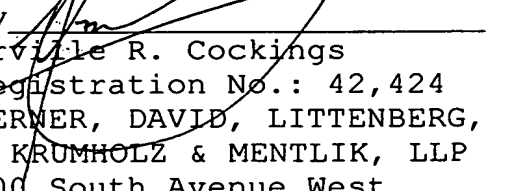
With regard to the other prior art references made of record but not relied on by the Examiner, applicants respectfully submit that these references do not make up for the deficiencies in Arita. As such, the references cited and made of record by the Examiner cannot be combined in any manner so as to obviate claims 1-10.

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-10 are allowable. In addition, as it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he/she telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

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